Application Serial No.: 09/628,693 Attorney Docket No. 03495.0193-00

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

- (original) A purified nucleic acid molecule comprising the DNA sequence
 of SEQ ID NO:2.
- 2. (original) A purified nucleic acid molecule encoding an amino acid sequence comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.
- 3. (previously presented) A purified nucleic acid molecule that hybridizes to either strand of a denatured, double-stranded DNA comprising the nucleic acid sequence of any one of claims 1 or 2 under conditions of high stringency.
- 4. (previously presented) The purified nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 3, wherein said isolated nucleic acid molecule is derived by in vitro mutagenesis from a sequence selected from SEQ ID NO:2 to NO: 15.
- 5. (previously presented) A purified nucleic acid molecule encoding SEQ ID NOS: 5 or 7, or degenerate from SEQ ID NOS: 6 or 8 as a result of the genetic code.
 - 6-7. (canceled)
- 8. (original) A recombinant vector that directs the expression of a nucleic acid molecule of claim 3.
- 9. (original) A recombinant vector that directs the expression of a nucleic acid molecule of claim 4.
 - 10-25. (canceled)
 - 26. (original) A host cell transfected or transduced with the vector of claim 8.

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- 27. (previously presented) A method for the production of SEQ ID NO:1 comprising culturing a host cell of claim 26 under conditions promoting expression, and recovering the polypeptide from the culture medium.
- 28. (original) The method of claim 27, wherein the host cell is selected from the group consisting of bacterial cells, yeast cells, plant cells, and animal cells.
 - 29. (original) A host cell transfected or transduced with the vector of claim 9.
- 30. (previously presented) A method for the production of SEQ ID NO:1 comprising culturing a host cell of claim 29 under conditions promoting expression, and recovering the polypeptide from the culture medium.
- 31. (original) The method of claim 30, wherein the host cell is selected from the group consisting of bacterial cells, yeast cells, plant cells, and animal cells.
- 32. (original) The plasmid deposited at CNCM under the Accession Number 1-2247.

33-41. (canceled)

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